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## Gilbert Seeks Increase in Federal Transportation Funds

*Senator Sponsors Resolution Urging Congress for Higher State Returns*

**(LANSING)** – Michigan is facing a tough task in meeting the increased transportation needs of its residents, prompting Senator Jud Gilbert, R-Algonac, to urge Congress to appropriate a higher rate of return on the state’s transportation funding.

Senator Gilbert introduced Senate Resolution 6 today, urging Congress to establish a minimum rate of return of 95 percent of Michigan’s federal transportation funding for highway and transit programs.

“Michigan currently receives approximately 90.5 cents in return for every highway dollar we send to Washington,” Gilbert, chair of the Senate Transportation Committee, said. “While this is a notable improvement from the amounts received in previous years, it remains inadequate for our state’s considerable overall transportation needs.”

In the area of transit, the deficiency of funding received from the federal government is much more severe, with Michigan receiving only about 50 cents for each dollar sent through taxes – creating a shortfall that will present significant problems to certain aspects of Michigan’s transportation infrastructure.

According to the resolution, as discussions take place on future funding mechanisms and the next federal transportation funding bill, it is imperative that a fairer approach in Michigan’s transportation funding develops.

Senate Resolution 6 now heads to the Senate Transportation Committee.

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**Editor’s Note: Comments from Senator Gilbert on the transportation funds resolution are available on the Senate Hotline at (517) 373-4000.**